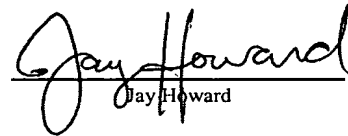


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:                      Ali U. Ahmed and Raymond D. Heistand II  
Date Filed:                                  December 4, 2003  
Title:    *System and Method for Preventing Connector Damage*

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this Information Disclosure Statement is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail No. EV352396072 addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

  
Jay Howard

Dear Sir:

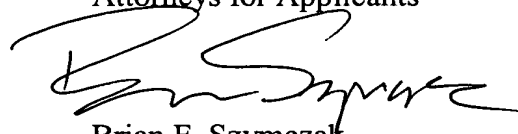
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Applicants respectfully request, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, that the references listed on the attached PTO-1449 form be considered and cited in the examination of the above-referenced patent application. Since the present Application was filed after June 30, 2003, a copy of the U.S. Patent and U.S. Patents and/or U.S. Patent Application Publications cited on the attached PTO Form 1449 are not being submitted with this Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to the July 11, 2003 waiver of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i) by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Furthermore, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.97(g) and (h), no representation is made that these references are material to the patentability of the present application.

Applicants believe no fees are due, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees to Deposit Account No. 02-0383 of Baker Botts L.L.P. in order to effectuate this filing.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.  
Attorneys for Applicants

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian E. Szymczak', is written over the printed name.

Brian E. Szymczak  
Reg. No. 47,120

Date: December 4, 2003

Correspondence Address:

Customer No. **23640**

512.322.2548  
512.322.8340 (Fax)

<b>PTO-1449</b>  <b>Information Disclosure Citation in an Application</b>			Application No.		Applicant(s) Ali U. Ahmed, et al.		
			Docket Number 016295.1507 (DC-05550)		Group Art Unit		Filing Date December 4, 2003

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A.	6062907	5/16/00	Tan et al.	439	610	2/4/99
	B.	6126451	10/3/00	Zandy et al.	439	61	6/2/97
	C.	6296500	10/2/01	Liao	439	188	10/2/01
	D.	6435897	8/20/02	Paul et al.	439	374	8/20/02
	E.	6454592	9/24/02	Takagi	439	378	12/15/00
	F.	6460104	10/1/02	Zandy et al.	710	129	10/2/00
	G.	6616341	9/9/03	Gallup et al.	385	53	9/18/01
	H.	6626699	9/30/03	Epe et al.	439	527	PCT 1/5/00
	I.						
	J.						
	K.						
	L.						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	M.							
	N.							
	O.							
	P.							

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS		
	DOCUMENT (Including Author, Title, Source, and Pertinent Pages)	DATE
	Q.	
	R.	
	S.	
	T.	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.	